



ALBERTA'S FINANCES

BUDGET SPEECH

DELIVERED BY

HON. A. C. RUTHERFORD

PRIME MINISTER AND PROVINCIAL TREASURER
OF ALBERTA

MAY 7, 1906



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Mr. Speaker-

It has fallen to my lot to present a statement of the revenue of this Province for this year, and also some explanation of the Estimates which are presented to this House. I realize the difficulty of my position, this being the first budget speech, as it is known, to be delivered in this Province. It is the custom for Provincial Treasurers to largely confine their explanations to a comparison between the revenues and expenditures of the previous year with the revenues and expenditures of the year in which the Estimates are presented. I am in the position to-day that I have no previous year with which to compare the revenues and expenditures. We have only commenced to do business in this Province, and on that account there is no opportunity given to make a comparison with previous years.

In the first place it devolves upon me to explain to you the revenue of the present year,—to give you some idea as to the source of same, and afterwards I shall have some observations to make on

the proposed expenditure.

Previous to the formation of the Territories into Provinces the Territorial Government prepared estimates of expenditures each year that were presented by them to the Government at Ottawa. Each year they requested from the Dominion Government a grant equal to what they proposed to expend, less the amount that they expected to derive from local sources. There was no fixed income; no fixed revenue or subsidy from the Federal authorities at that time; but our position as a Province is different from this. We have a fixed subsidy given us under The Alberta Act.

It might be of interest to the House to learn the amount that the Territorial administration received from time to time from the Federal Government for the purpose of carrying on their work. It present this to the House to show that the West is growing, and how the grants were increased year by year in order to meet the requirements necessitated by the rapid growth of the country.

1110	Dominion 1892																195,700	· ·
	1893	 	 										 				199,200	
	1894																225,534	
	1895	 , ,											 				267,534	
	1896	 					. ,						 				242,879	
	1897																282,879	
	1898	 	 					 									282,879	
	1899	 	 					 									282,879	
	1900	 	 					 									424,879	
	1901	 	 														407,879	
	1902	 	 														457,979	
	1903	 	 					 									957,979	

I have stated, Mr. Speaker, that under The Alberta Act we now receive a fixed subsidy from the Dominion Government, and that grant increases with the growth of population. We receive for legislation a fixed sum of \$50,000.00 each year. This amount does

not increase with the extension of population. We receive on capital account, on account of our starting business without a debt, \$405,-375.00, and this is a fixed amount which we receive each year so long as we exist as a Province. On an estimated population of two hundred and fifty thousand at eighty cents per head, we receive the sum of \$200,000.00. This amount increases with the growth of population until the population of the Province reaches eight hundred thousand, when we receive \$640,000.00. We are also given a grant in lieu of lands—on an estimated population of two hundred and fifty thousand,—the sum of \$375,000.00, and when such population reaches four hundred thousand we receive \$562,500.00. When our population reaches eight hundred thousand, the sum payable shall be \$750,000.00. When the population reaches one million two hundred thousand, we receive \$1,125,000.00 in lieu of lands. When we receive our maximum subsidy from the Dominion Government, we receive the sum of \$2,220,375.00.

I further ought to explain that for a period of five years, in lieu of public lands, we receive, from the time The Alberta Act comes into force, annually, to provide for the construction of necessary public buildings, the sum of \$93,750.00, amounting in all for five years

to \$468,750.00.

All the provinces of Canada receive annually a subsidy, payable half-yearly in advance from the Dominion Government, and this year, 1906, the Federal Administration pays out in subsidies to the Provincial Governments the sum of \$6,726,372.88.

Of this the Province of Ontario receives\$	1,339,287.28
Quebec	1,086,713.48
Nova Scotia	432,805.56
New Brunswick	491,360.96
Manitoba, including allowance for lands, etc	608,947.06
British Columbia	307,076.66
Prince Edward Island	211,931.88
Saskatchewan	1,124,125.00
Alberta	1,124,125.00

So much for an explanation showing the source of the greater

amount of our provincial revenue.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this Government took office in the month of September, 1905, and during the four months of last year we received a certain revenue and incurred certain expenditures, and I think in order to make my statement plain that I should inform you of the amount of revenue we received during that time, and also explain our expenditure during this four months. The amount received in September last year from the Dominion Government was the sum of \$515,187.50. On account of public buildings trust the sum of \$46,875.00. The grant received for the construction of public buildings we have placed in the trust fund in the bank, keeping that account separate from the general revenue. We received from the liquidator of the North-West Territories the sum of \$102,775.42. I might add that the Dominion Government appointed a liquidator to liquidate the affairs of the Government of the North-West Territories, and the amount to the credit of the Territories was divided equally between the two Provinces. From other sources we received the sum of \$18,215.00. A total revenue for four months of last year

of \$683,052.92. According to the Estimates presented a few days ago we expended during that time \$162,722.93, leaving a surplus at the end of last year of \$520,329.99.

We started at the commencement of this year with a surplus to credit of general revenue account of \$473,252.64. Surplus from 1905 in public building account of \$47,077.35. This is a little more than half of the grant of \$93,750.00 that we receive each year, but we derive interest from the bank on amount to our credit.

This year under the head of Government and	
Legislation we received the sum of	50,000.00
Population	200,000.00
Annual payment to Province	405,375.00
Compensation Public Lands	375,000.00
Public Buildings Fund	93,750.00

Total amount of Dominion Subsidy for this year.. \$ 1,124,125.00

We also estimate that we will receive on interest of moneys from the sale of school lands the sum of \$47,000.00. This will be a growing fund. I might be permitted, Mr. Speaker, to read to you the section of The Dominion Lands Act under which we receive this revenue. Section 20, subsection 4 of this Act, dated 1883, reads as follows:

"Provided also that all moneys from time to time realized from the sale of school lands shall be invested in Dominion securities to form a school fund and the interest arising therefrom after deducting the cost of management shall be paid annually to the Government of the Province or Territory within which such lands are situated towards the support of public schools therein. And the money so paid to be distributed for that purpose by the Government of such province or territory, in such manner as may by it be deemed most expedient."

We estimate, Mr. Speaker, the amount that we will receive under the Railway Tax Bill the sum of \$160,000.00, and it is expected that from land registration offices a revenue will be received of \$50,-000.00, and from other sources the sum of \$100,000.00. The other sources from which we derive this \$100,000.00 are in part as follows: Auctioneers' and pedlars' license fees, marriage licenses, veterinary surgeons' licenses, certificates under provincial seal, incorporation, registration and license fees under Foreign Companies Ordinance. notary, commissions, succession duty, hotel liquor licenses, dining car, commercial travellers, permits and fines, engineers, steam boilers, redemption fees, brands, vital statistics, registration game licenses, gazette, sale of Ordinances, etc. I might state that if we see fit we can very well supplement the source from which we will derive revenue in the future, and I think it would only be right and proper that we might tax lands outside of school districts for school purposes. Most of the Provinces of the Dominion receive a revenue from other sources,--from corporations other than railways. Insurance companies, banks, incorporated companies, loan companies; navigation companies, telegraph companies, telephone companies, tramway companies, etc., pay a revenue in the different provinces of the confederation, and I do not see why we should not receive a revenue from these sources. However, all these matters will be taken into consideration between now and the second session of this Legislature.

Now, Mr. Speaker, lest the House may have forgotten the trend of my remarks I will recapitulate some of the figures I have submitted.

We commence with a surplus of \$ 520,329.99
From the Dominion Government we receive for
1906
Estimated revenue from other sources. 100,000.00
Railways
Interest on school lands 47,000.00
Registry offices
A total revenue of
Expenditure as per estimates which we have
brought down

But you will notice in the Estimates that there is a sum of \$250,000.00 advanced to creameries. This amount is placed there so that we can issue cheques for the payment to the creameries, but we expect to receive every cent of this back. Deduct this amount from the estimated expenditure \$1,968,081.67, it will leave an estimated expenditure for this year of \$1,718,081.67, leaving a very modest surplus of \$283,373.32, if we receive the additional revenue estimated from railways, interest on school lands and land registration offices.

Now, Mr. Speaker, with regard to the proposed expenditures for the year 1906, I might offer a few remarks.

Under the head of Civil Government we propose to expend \$127,806.67, which largely covers the salaries and expenses of the departments and offices in connection with the administration. Remuneration to the Cabinet will amount to \$21,000.00. I do not know whether the salaries proposed to pay to the Ministers of the Crown are moderate or not. I think myself they are fair. In Ontario Ministers of the Crown are paid \$35,000.00. Under the head of legislation it is expected that we will expend \$29,425.00. This includes the indemnity and expenses of members of this Legislature. We have increased duties and expenses in connection with the administration of justice over and above the old Territorial Government. We will now have charge of criminal prosecutions and maintenance, and many matters in connection with the department of justice which we did not have jurisdiction over before. Under the head of maintenance and transportation of insane the estimated cost is \$39,000,00, and for maintenance and transportation of prisoners \$41,000.00. Salaries of the clerks of the court \$15,000.00. Salaries and maintenance of registry offices \$30,000.00. The license branch which will be under the Department of the Attorney General will require an outlay of \$8,700.00.

It is proposed to make a large expenditure this year for public works. I think this House will agree with me that this department is in very good hands for the expenditure of public moneys. We expect to expend on public works in this Province this year the sum of \$996,000.00, more than half the total amount of our expenditure. As a Province we will have to undertake the construction of provincial buildings and also the construction of roads and bridges, that come under this important department.

There is an item of \$20,000.00 for legislative and departmental buildings. This embraces the amount that we will have to pay for rental of offices.

Boring for water and public wells, \$15,000.00. In Northern Alberta there is no difficulty in obtaining water, but in some other sections of the Province there is great difficulty in obtaining a supply of water, and it has been the custom under the old Territorial regime in the past to make provision for this matter, and we consider it our duty to do something for this object.

	20,000.00
Maintenance and repairs of Public Works	50,000.00
For the construction of roads and bridges	500,000.00

\$267,000.00 of this latter amount will likely go towards the construction of bridges, and the balance for roads. I might, Mr. Speaker, be permitted to point out some of the items under the expenditure for bridges. It is proposed to construct a bridge near Calgary on the Bow river at a cost of \$50,000.00. Over the Old Man river in the Pincher Creek district we will construct a bridge at a cost of \$20,000.00. Rosebud, where my honourable friend on the Opposition side of the House comes from, has not been overlooked, and we propose to build a bridge on the Little Red Deer river at a cost of \$10,000. In the Sturgeon district on the Sturgeon river and the Battle river bridges at Wetaskiwin there is a proposed expenditure of \$10,000.00 for each district. On the South Saskatchewan river in Medicine Hat it is proposed to construct a bridge at an expenditure of \$50,000.00. This bridge will cost a larger amount, but this is the estimated expenditure this year.

This will give the House an idea of the larger expenditures in connection with bridges.

In the southern part of Alberta more expensive bridges are required than in the north, and provincial moneys will, therefore, go to a large extent to improve roads and construct smaller bridges in the northern part of the country. We cannot, however, undertake to expend the same amount in each year, but it is hoped in the course of a series of years there will be a very much smaller amount required.

We expect, Mr. Speaker, to commence the erection of a Normal School in the City of Calgary. I might be permitted to add that the location of a Normal School is the first provincial building that the Government has located in this province. We do not expect that the purchase of a site and the erection of a proper and substantial building will only cost \$85,000.00. We fully expect that the Normal School when completed will cost at least in the neighbourhood of \$115,000.00 or \$120,000.00. I think any public buildings to be erected in the Province should be of a substantial character, and we propose to build a substantial Normal School building in the city of Calgary—a building that will be a credit to the Province. There is also an item in the Estimates of \$2,000.00 for the purchase of a site for a cold storage building. We hope the creamery industry will grow in this Province, and I am sure it is bound to grow to such an extent that there will be more distributing points required in connection

with the business in the course of a few years. There is an item of \$140,000.00 for the construction of Parliament Buildings. I presume as the capital question is now decided that we can very well proceed with the erection of the Legislative Buildings. We are paying a high rental for necessary Government accommodation now, and the sooner we have our own buildings constructed the better for all concerned. We do not expect, however, that the Parliament Buildings which we will erect will be constructed for the sum of \$140,000.00. It is estimated by the Government that we will expend in the next four years the sum of \$400,000.00 or \$500,000.00 in the erection of Legislative Buildings. It is most desirable that a structure of this character should be substantial and a credit to the Province, and it is proposed to erect a building that will meet the present requirements, and a structure that can be added to when the necessity arises.

There is no Court House in the town of Cardston. We propose this year, Mr. Speaker, to erect a Court House there. Judges have been complaining of the accommodation in Cardston, and we have appropriated the sum of \$10,000.00 for this purpose. There is no Court House in the city, or what will be a city in the course of two or three days, of Wetaskiwin, and we intend to purchase a site for a Court House at that point. Honourable Members are quite well aware that there are Court Houses in a number of the towns throughout the Province that have been erected by the Dominion Government, so that we will not have to undertake the erection of Court Houses to a very great extent. The item of \$15,000.00 in the Estimates for the purchase of a Court House site at Wetaskiwin is also intended to cover sites for asylums and jails.

We have also placed in the Estimates the sum of \$25,000.00 for Wetaskiwin Court House, and this amount will probably cover any work that we can undertake this year.

Proceeding, Mr. Speaker, to the Estimates covering education we estimate that there will be required for educational purposes this year the sum of \$200,000.00. The greater part of this goes in grants to schools, namely, \$165,000.00. The Government of the Territories heretofore paid very substantial grants for the support of a common school system, and we do not propose to make any change in the method or the amount of those grants. We hope at the end of this year that there will be 750 or 800 schools in operation in the Province, and I do not think anyone will begrudge a liberal amount for the support of education. We have now six school inspectors. We are paying them at the rate of \$1,600.00 a year, and in addition to this they receive a subsistence allowance. They are required to furnish themselves with a team and everything in connection with a driving outfit, and we allow them at the rate of \$50.00 a month for that purpose, so that each inspector will receive for salary and maintenance the sum of \$2,200.00.

We felt it our duty in order to properly organize school districts among the foreign population to appoint a supervisor. The duty of this official is to organize schools and place the districts on a proper business basis, and to have a general supervision over schools. Since this official has been appointed there have been organized about sixteen school districts.

It is our duty to provide for the education, transportation and maintenance of the deaf, mute and blind, and for this purpose we have placed in the Estimates the sum of \$4,000.00.

In the Department of Agriculture it is expected that we will spend \$315,050.00. \$250,000.00 of this goes towards advance payments to creameries, which will be recouped to the provincial exchequer after the sale of the butter. The sum of \$6,000.00 has been set aside for the destruction of noxious weeds. If reports are correct about 14 per cent. of the grain sent to Fort William is weeds, so it is most desirable that strenuous efforts be exercised for the extermination of weeds. There have been very few weed inspectors heretofore. We propose to have a larger number and instruct them to do their best towards exterminating noxious weeds.

The Territorial Government about two years ago appointed a bacteriologist, who was located at Regina. We do not propose to make an appointment for this Province at present, but propose, however, to continue this bacteriologist between the two Provinces until we have matters arranged for our own Province. Next year we may require the services of a bacteriologist.

We have, Mr. Speaker, taken over the dairying industries of this Province from the Dominion Government, and propose to do the work on the same lines that the Federal Administration undertook to carry it out. In addition to operating the factories we propose to establish travelling dairies for imparting instruction to the people of the Province. We propose to encourage the manufacture of butter, so that it will be of a uniform character. For this purpose we have set aside in the Estimates \$7,500.00.

For the extension of markets we have appropriated the sum of \$500.00. This is for the purpose of securing market prices of grain so that the farmers will be enabled to find an outlet for their products at the proper time of the year.

We were requested by all the Boards of Trade in the Province to give some encouragement to the Western Canada Immigration Association. This association has been doing a good work for immigration in these Western Provinces. We have an item in the Estimates of \$2,500.00 for this purpose. We do not propose to hand this amount right over to this association without having control of same. We will see that there are two or three parties from this part of the Province who will be members of the executive and will control this amount.

Under the head of Hospitals, Charities and Public Health the sum of \$33,500.00 has been set aside.

Miscellaneous, the sum of \$45,100.00. \$20,000.00 of this will go toward printing. Quite a large quantity of printing will be required. The journals of the House and the reports and statements of the various departments will require to be printed. \$15,000.00 under this head will go towards meeting the expenses of elections. \$8,500.00 of it for consolidation of the Ordinances.

Another item to which I wish to refer before I resume my seat is the sum of \$1,200.00 for the Provincial Rifle Association. This

includes the sum of \$1,000.00 to be devoted to sending a rifle team to Ottawa to take part in the rifle association matches there. I understand the other Provinces devote an amount to that purpose, and I, therefore, think there will be no objection to our furnishing this amount.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have placed the financial standing of the Province before this House in as lucid a manner as possible. I have pointed out that the estimated revenue is larger than the esti-

mated surplus expenditure; hence I predict a surplus.

We live, Mr. Speaker, in one of the grandest Provinces in this Canadian Confederation. We believe there is a great future before our Province, and that it will be a still grander Province in the very near future. We fondly hope in the course of a few years that millions of people will find their homes here in this Province of Alberta. Our resources are such that we can support a population of ten millions. We hope that our fond expectations will be realized. We are a hopeful people. We have no pessimists in Alberta,—a pessimist could not succeed. We are optimistic, and always look on the brighter side of affairs, and so long as we keep on progressing in the future as we have in the past we will without a doubt become the great premier Province in British North America.

RECEIPTS.

Dominion of Canada	102,775.42 2,846.00 6,665.50 1,972.45 915.75 1,300.00 275.15	
Interest	4,037.80 \$	635 , 975 . 57
EXPENDITURE.		
Civil Government \$ Legislation Administration of Justice Public Works Education Agriculture and Statistics Hospitals, Charities and Public Health Miscellaneous Balance	25,723.74 170.25 18,801.11 98,562.18 3,081.61 944.01 387.61 15,052.42 473,252.64	635,975.57
Public Buildings Fund.		
Dominion of Canada\$ Interest	46,875.00 202.35	47,077.35
Balance		47,077.35

STATEMENT OP REVENUE RECEIVED BY THE PROVINCIAL TREASURER FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Dominion of Canada—		
Half-yearly subsidy Amount received from Liquidator of the North-West Territories as balance due the Province	\$	515,187.50
of Alberta at the close of Liquidation		102,775.42
DEPARTMENT OF PROVINCIAL SECRETARY AND REGISTRAR OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES—		
License Fees: Auctioneers	\$ 140.00	
Pedlars	50.00	
Marriage	130.00	
To practice Veterinary Surgery	15.00	
Certificates under Provincial Seal	14.00	
The Companies Ordinance:	1 240 00	
Incorporation fees	1,340.00 77.00	
The Foreign Companies Ordinance:		
License and registration fees	1,075 00	
Registration fees upon documents filed by companies licensed	5.00	
_		2,846.00
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT— Commissions:		
Notaries Public	140.00	
For administering oaths	20.00	
Fees under the Succession Duties Ordinance Fees, etc., under the Liquor License Ordinance:	1,025.00	
Hotel licenses	1,829.21	
Wholesale licenses	284.43	
Canadian Northern Railway dining car license.	100.00	
Commercial Travellers' licenses	210.00	
Permits for importation of intoxicants into prohibited territory	30.00	
Fines:		
Under Dominion Statutes	1,866.04	
Under Ordinances	1,135.82	
Law costs in actions and forfeiture proceedings un-	05.00	
der The Local Improvement Ordinance	25.00	6,665.50
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT—		0,000.00
Certificates under The Coal Mines RegulationsOrdinand	ce:	
Mine Managers	25.00	
Pit and Fire Boss	27.00	
Certificates under The Steam Boilers Ordinance:	* 40 00	
Engineers.	540.00	
Boiler inspections	920.00	
Redemption and advertising fees under The Local	93.00	
Improvement Ordinance	41.00	
Sale of material	76.45	
Appropriations towards improving Macleod trail:		
John Lineham	50.00	
Town of Okotoks	200.00	1 050 45
AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT—		1,972.45
Fees under The Brand Ordinance	660.50	
Registration of Stallions	6.00	
Game licenses	242.00	
Vital Statistics	7.25	018 85
GOVERNMENT PRINTER		915.75
Official Gazette—Subscriptions and advertising	266.15	
Sale of Ordinances	9.00	275.15
Carried forward		\$ 630,63 7 .77

CLERK OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL-	Brought forward	\$630,637.77
Forfeited election deposits		1,300.00
MISCELLANEOUS-	of Constant	
Interest allowed by Imperial Bank balances to November 30th, 19	05	4,037.80
Description of Councils Helf manifes		635,975.57
Dominion of Canada—Half-yearly s tion of Public Buildings		46,875.00
Interest allowed on same by Imperi ada to November 30th, 1905	al Bank of Can-	202.35
	-	\$683,052.92

STATEMENT OF THE EXPENDITURES MADE BY THE PROVINCIAL TREASURER FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1905.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT— Lieutenant Governor's Office. \$ Executive Council. Attorney General's Department. Provincial Secretary's Department Treasury Department. Audit Office. Public Works Department. Agricultural Department. Education.	300.00 8,712.75 2,339.32 629.11 1,675.71 1,454.40 6,998.70 1,922.25 1,691.50	25,723.7 4
LEGISLATION—		
Library Newspapers and periodicals	$124.50 \\ 45.75$	
		170.25
Administration of Justice— Sheriff's fees	187.09 3,305.87	
Crown prosecutors	1,562.15	
Clerks of Court	85.00	
Contingencies	178.00	
Shorthand Reporters	$1,179.10 \\ 11,339.50$	•
Maintenance InsaneAdministration Liquor License Ordinance	964.40	
— — — — —		18,801.11
Public Works—		,
Maintenance Government House	7,004.17	
Legislative and Departmental Buildings	7,197.00	
Inspection Public Works	810.75	
Inspection Coal Mines	643.95	
Inspection Steam Boilers	1,523.80	
Fireguards	$\frac{36.00}{352.35}$	
Boring and Testing for WaterFerry Accommodation	617.94	
Ditches and drains	5,805.52	
Reconstruction and repairs.	7,889.04	
Construction of Bridges.	17,940.13	
Improvement of Roads	34,861.91	
Surveys	11,623.02	
Tools and Implements	$2,\!256.60$	
		98,562.18

Brought forward	l	\$143,257.28
EDUCATION— Normal Schools and Teachers' Institutes Inspection of Schools Examinations Supervisors of schools among foreigners	424.21 2,483.00 1.00 173.40	3,081 . 61
AGRICULTURE AND STATISTICS— Judges at Examinations Destruction of Wolves Vital Statistics Contingencies	202,25 165,00 494,75 82,01	944.01
Hospitals, Charities and Public Health— Care of incurables	102.00 285.61	
Miscellaneous— Government Printer's Advance Elections	2,678.53 12,373.89	387.61 15,052.42
Total Expenditure	1	162,722.93

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